

[www.utah.gov](http://www.utah.gov)

Cary G. Peterson, Commissioner

Milestones  
October 2003

- **Day 5** – Feb. 8, 2002 Olympic “Product of Utah Store” opens to promote Utah Ag. products
- **Day 5** – Feb.8, 2002 Olympic bio-security plan safeguards Olympic livestock from threat of FMD, BSE & CWD.
- **Day 15** – Feb. 18, 2002 Renew process begins for category 1 Federal Meat Inspection rating
- **Day 17**, Feb 23 Strengthen pesticide applicator licensing process (anti-terrorism)
- **Day 20** - Feb. 23, 2002 Implementation of UCHAP – Utah Cattle Health Assurance Program
- **Day 25** - Feb 28, 2002 Ground water reports distributed on CD ROM
- **Day 30** – March 5, 2002 Strengthened surveillance of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Utah
- **Day 31** – March 6, 2002: \$337,000 awarded to 29 water quality (AFO/CAFO) projects
- **Day 36** – March 11, 2002 Issuing of department bio-security kits to livestock veterinarians and other staff (anti-terrorism)
- **Day 37** – March 12, 2002 UDAF promotes Utah branded foods at Asian food shows
- **Day 41** – March 16, 2002 Olympics and Paralympics conclude without any major food borne related illness
- **Day 50** (March 25, 2002) Department adopts its Olympic emergency communications plan as its official emergency communications plan
- **Day 57** – April 1, 2002 Complete implementation of a statewide HACCP program for all official and custom-exempt meat plants
- **Day 57** – April 1 (FAIM) Field Automation Information Management system brings computerized monitoring and communication for animal health & safety.
- **Day 58** - April 2, 2002 Use of newly designed software program for Brand Certificate Audits
- **Day 71** – April 15, 2002 Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) go into effect to offer additional food safety inspections at farms.
- **Day 87** - May 1, 2002 Converted Information Technology wiring to a Cat 5 level 7 wiring which will run at 1000mb per second
- **Day 89** – May 3, 2002 Utah among first 10 states with certified organic program
- **Day 94** - May 8, 2002 U.S. EPA recognizes department’s AFO/CAFO clean water program as national model

- **Day 94** - May 8, 2002 USDA awards \$640,000 in specialty crop and Agriculture promotion grants to 32 producers for use in improving the agriculture and food sectors of Utah.
- **Day 100** – May 14, 2002 Internally developed computer software to allow for total integration of dairy inspections and laboratory tests
- **Day 116** – May 30, 2002 UDAF hosts three China trade delegations seeking Utah food products
- **Day 118** – June 1, 2002 Increased surveillance for African Bee, Japanese Beetle, Gypsy Moth, and Red Imported Fire Ants
- **Day 120** – June 3, 2002 First state agency to initiate survey of customers regarding online service use
- **Day 130** - June 13, 2002 Water conservation information is made available on the UDAF web site following a state and federal drought, insect, frost, and wind damage disaster declaration.
- **Day 145** – June 28, 2002 UDAF awards \$337,000 in water quality grants to 29 farmers/ranchers
- **Day 148** – July 1, 2002 Participation in the National Sheep Identification Program (national bio-security)
- **Day 165** – July 18, 2002 Tightening of regulations regarding the movement and testing of domestic elk to prevent the spread of CWD among domestic and wild deer and elk.
- **Day 169** – July 22, 2002 UDAF promotes livestock genetics at Argentine livestock show
- **Day 193** -- August 15, 2002 Annual Report produced on CD ROM format to capitalize on the benefits of digital technology.
- **Day 197** - August 19, 2002 Completion of the Utah's largest Mormon cricket and grasshopper control effort as more than 100,000 acres are treated, with the state contributing \$300,000.
- **Day 240** - October 1, 2002 Online license renewal begins for the 14,000 agriculture-oriented licenses currently on file. UDAF becomes the first State agency to offer an online searchable directory of licensed businesses.
- **Day 206** - August 28, 2002 The Utah Food Safety Task Force met. The Disease Surveillance Group developed standards for the submission of food samples. Health Departments were educated on when and how to submit food samples. These two items are extremely important because of bioterrorism.
- **Day 207** - August 29, 2002 A news event was held. Governor Leavitt declared September as Food Safety Month. The Utah Food Safety Coalition educated consumers on temperature control. Members of the team, such as the Utah Beef Council, the Utah Dairy Association and Utah State University did demonstrations on keeping things cold, cooking and hot holding. The press conference was well attended.
- **Day 227** – September 18, 2002 Utah Department of Agriculture and Food releases annual report on both CD ROM and printed medium to take advantage of the benefits of digital and Internet technology. The digitized report allows reader to access information not contained within the hard copy version of the report.
- **Day 282** – November 12, 2002 UDAF and USDA-NRCS announce signing of conservation easement with Evan Olsen Dairy on 13.1 acres of high quality farmland in Cache County.

- **Day 263** -- October 26, 2002: Six Utah food companies participated in UDAF sponsored "UTAH!" booth at SIAL food show in Paris. Participating companies reported projected sales in the coming 12 months at \$1,150,000.
- **Day 310** -- December 10, 2002: The Division's Animal Health program responded to the threat of two Foreign Animal Diseases in 2002 -- The West Nile Virus and Exotic Newcastle Disease. Public awareness, vaccination and surveillance programs were implemented to combat the introduction of the diseases.
- **Day 312** -- December 12, 2002 Participation in FDA Electronic Laboratory Exchange Network (eLEXNET) program. It is an integrated, secure system that allows multiple government agencies engaged in food safety activities to compare, communicate, and coordinate laboratory analysis findings.
- **Day 341** -- January 10, 2003 The Utah Cattle Health Assurance Program (UCHAP) leads to six fold reduction in Trichomoniasis cases in year 2002 and plays a significant role in the department's Farm-to-Table disease intervention program and has qualified Utah to receive more than \$150,000 in federal funding for Johne's Disease control.
- **Day 351** -- January 20, 2003 Participation in FDA Counter-Terrorism Food Emergency Response Network (FERN). It is a network of state and federal laboratories that are committed to analyzing food samples in the event of a biological, chemical, or radiological terrorist attack in this country. Federal partners are FDA, USDA, CDC, and EPA.
- **Day 368** -- February 6, 2003: The Division's Animal Health program was successful in obtaining federal grants totaling \$273,000 for Homeland Security and Bio-security in 2002. These grants will be used to enhance our laboratory diagnostic capabilities, equip a Mobile Emergency Disease Response Unit, and to train private veterinarians to recognize and respond to both Foreign Animal Disease threats and Agri-terrorist threats.
- **Day 394** -- March 4, 2003: Wildlife Services trappers locate and remove two wolfs near the Utah/Wyoming border following depredation attacks on Utah sheep. WS trappers added to a multi-state 24/7 call out team because of their skills.
- **Day 404**-- March 14, 2003: Two Utah Companies participated with UDAF at Foodex Food Show in Tokyo, Japan. Participating companies reported projected sales in the coming 12 months of \$1,250,000.
- **Day 409** -- 19, 2003: Chemistry Laboratory reduces cost of groundwater sampling from \$9.50 per sample to \$2.25 per sample.
- **Day 422** --April 1, 2003: Utah Egg Quality Assurance Program (UEQAP) passes the two-year mark for significantly reduced numbers of Salmonella illness. Prior to 2001, the Department of Health was reporting over 300 cases per year, while in 2002 only 40 cases were reported, an 8-fold decrease that has been sustained over the last 2 years.
- **Day 450** -- April 29, 2003: Information Technology team wins the State's Outstanding Online Application award for the development of the first online license renewal system that contained the ability to also search for current licenses on file.
- **Day 452** -- May 1, 2003: Animal Feeding Operations assessment team inventoried 3,000<sup>th</sup> farm and ranch as UDAF works to improve groundwater quality in Utah, and prevent landowners from undergoing expensive permitting process with U.S. EPA.
- **Day 523** -- July 11, 2003: First shipment of 16 million pounds of Non-fat Dry Milk arrives in Tremonton as part of a USDA/UDAF drought relief program for Utah cattle ranchers.

- **Day 533** – July 21, 2003: Opening of Central Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Nephi, Utah. The laboratory serves as a primary line of defense to detect and prevent the spread of animal diseases. The laboratory is especially concerned with diseases that are transmissible from animals to man, and will employ technology to promote homeland security and deter bioterrorism.
- **Day 502** -- June 20, 2003 Utah ARDL Program booked over \$3 million in low interest loans to assist Utah farmers and ranchers address soil and water conservation objectives and leverage federal resources available through NPS 319, EQIP and other programs.
- Day 513 -- July 1, 2003: UDAF Ground-water Program has tested 1,955 rural water samples from across the state helping rural citizens determine water quality for culinary and agriculture uses. Federal law requires regular testing for water systems with 15 or more hook-ups to protect users. Over 75 % of the UDAF tests are conducted on rural wells used for culinary needs.
- **Day 513** -- July 1, 2003: Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations(CAFO) assessment team has identified 387 Potential CAFO's during statewide inventory and assessment campaign. Potential CAFO's are being provided technical and financial assistance to keep them out of the EPA's permitting process.
- **Day 544** -- August 1, 2003 Utah's Parallel Salinity Program, administered by UDAF, has assisted Utah farmers and ranchers in improving irrigation systems to conserve water resources and reduce salt loads introduced into the Colorado River. Over 7,800 acres have improved irrigation systems in the Uintah Basin, Price River and San Rafael regions removing 32,800 tons of salt. This effort is part of the Upper Colorado River states commitment to the International Treaty with Mexico.

#### Play it forward:

Increased number of ARDL water conservation projects.

Food Policy Team established to assist UDAF and the Ag. industry in identifying new marketing opportunities.

International trade strategy developed for Utah food companies to capitalize on the "Utah Brand" image.

AFO/CAFO Inventory to be completed to evaluate problems and provide assistance to address water quality challenges.

Increase pesticide groundwater samplings to 500 samples per year

Creation of a national animal identification system.

Expanded role for brand inspectors.

Online licensing and payments conducted via the Internet.